



# NEWS RELEASE

## PRESS OFFICE

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### ***SBA ANNOUNCES SAM JONES AS REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR***

**WASHINGTON** – The U.S. Small Business Administration announced today the appointment of Samuel C. “Sam” Jones of Mt. Vernon, Mo., as SBA’s regional administrator for Region VII, which includes Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri and Iowa.

“Sam’s past public service, high-profile leadership roles and personal private-sector business experience will be great assets to the SBA,” said SBA Administrator Hector V. Barreto in welcoming Jones. “Along with his strong community and public service ties, his qualities will serve the small businesses in Region VII very well.”

Jones added: “Mr. Barreto is assembling an outstanding team to support small businesses nationwide. I will bring to the SBA team my experience establishing small businesses, advising their owners and solving their problems.”

The economy of Region VII is primarily agriculture, manufacturing, mining, services and a high level of agricultural and food exports. The SBA’s Kansas City, Mo., regional office serves district offices in Des Moines and Cedar Rapids, Iowa; St. Louis and Kansas City, Mo.; Wichita and Omaha, Neb., and a branch office in Springfield, Mo. In fiscal 2001, Region VII SBA offices approved more than 2,053 guaranteed loans for more than \$392 million.

Jones received a bachelor of science degree in political science from Southwest Missouri State University in 1966. He served in the U. S. Army from 1966-68, attending Combat Platoon Leader and U.S. Army Intelligence Schools, and served as a commissioned officer in the Far East. In 1971, he earned a law degree from the University of Missouri Columbia School of Law. Currently, Jones operates a private practice law firm in Mt. Vernon, where he specializes in business and commercial law, and advises small businesses.

Jones worked in the property tax field for many years. He coordinated the State of Oklahoma’s Ad Valorem Task Force from 1990-91 and managed the property tax practice in the North Central United States for Arthur Anderson and Company from 1988-89. He was assistant to the president of Tenenbaum-Hill Associates, a property tax consulting firm in Kansas City, Mo., from 1986 to 1987.

**-more-**

Former Missouri Governor and current U.S. Senator Christopher “Kit” Bond appointed Jones to serve as the chairman of the Missouri State Tax Commission from 1981 to 1986.

Jones served as the Lawrence County, Mo., prosecutor from 1972 to 1980. He made a bid for the office of Missouri attorney general in the 2000 statewide election cycle. He also served as associate judge of the Circuit Court of Lawrence County, Mo., from 1991 to 1998.

Jones’ civic involvement includes serving on the board of Southwest Missouri Legal Aid and memberships in the Missouri Bar Commission On Children and the Law, the Mt. Vernon Rotary Club, the Mt. Vernon Chamber of Commerce and the First Baptist Church of Mt. Vernon.

He and his wife, Janice, have a daughter, Sarah, at home and they have two adult daughters – Caroline, a teacher, and Christine, a paralegal. Janice owns a real estate appraisal business.

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*For more information about all of the SBA’s programs for small businesses, call the SBA Answer Desk at 1-800-U ASK SBA or TDD 704-344-6640. Also, visit the SBA’s extensive Web site at [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov).*

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